

REMARKS

The Applicant appreciates the time taken by the Examiner to review the Applicant's present application. This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Examiner's comments, including the Office Action mailed August 5, 2008. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Requirement to elect species

The Examiner states that the application contains claims directed to patentably distinct species. The Examiner states that the different species include: I. a system including slave PWM controller chips that sample a synchronization (e.g., claims 8-12); II. a system including a master PWM controller chip that multiplexes data and a synchronization signal over a synchronization line (e.g., claims 13-14); III. a system including slave PWM controller chips that detect and signal errors (e.g., claims 15-16); and IV. a system including a master PWM controller chip that establishes communication with all slave PWM controller chips at once (e.g., claims 18-19). The examiner states that the Applicant is required to elect a single disclosed species to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

The Applicant provisionally elects the species of group I (including claims 8-12) for prosecution on the merits if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The claims of groups II, III and IV are therefore withdrawn from consideration pending allowance of a generic claim. The Examiner stated in the Office Action that claims 1-7 and 20-21 are generic.

Conclusion

The Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. Other than as explicitly set forth above, this reply does not include an acquiescence to statements, assertions, assumptions, conclusions, or any combination thereof in the Office Action.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the Applicant respectfully requests allowance of all claims pending in the application. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below for prompt action in the event any issues remain.

If any extensions of time are necessary to prevent the above referenced application from becoming abandoned, the Applicant hereby petitions for such extensions. If any fees are inadvertently omitted, or if any additional fees are required, or if any amounts have been

overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-3085 of the Law Offices of Mark L. Berrier.

Respectfully submitted,



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